

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 206226

ORIGIN TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 NEA-10 IO-13

H-01 L-03 PRS-01 PA-01 CEA-01 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

OMB-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 SSO-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY TREASURY:RMYERS/EA/EP:AHEGBURG/EB/IFD/ODF:AADAMS

APPROVED BY TREASURY:ANACHMANOFF

TREASURY:CBRADFORD

EA:EHEGINBOTHAM

AID/ASIA/PN:DLEVINTOW

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

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USADB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EFIN

SUBJECT: ADB VICE PRESIDENCY

REFS: A) MANILA 12922; B) MANILA 12417

1. FROM REFTELS IT APPEARS U.S. IS FACED WITH FAIT
ACCOMPLI REGARDING BOTH NON-U.S. CANDIDATE FOR VP AS WELL
AS THE DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN THE TWO VPS.
UNDERSTANDABLY, WE ARE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT EITHER. IN
VIEW OF TIME LIMITS, WE FEEL WE MUST TRUST TO U.S. ED TO
DO WHATEVER HE JUDGES CIRCUMSTANCES WILL PERMIT ON THESE
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PAGE 02 STATE 206226

TWO QUESTIONS WITHOUT ENDANGERING U.S. CANDIDACY FOR
SECOND VP SLOT. WE ARE OF COURSE TROUBLED BY THE PROPOSED
RANKING OF VP'S AND HOPE YOSHIDA COULD BE PERSUADED TO
ACCEPT AN ALTERNATIVE FORMULA WHICH DOES NOT SO CLEARLY
SUBORDINATE ONE VP TO THE OTHER. COULD QUOTE SENIOR
UNQUOTE VS. QUOTE JUNIOR UNQUOTE DESIGNATION BE ELIMINATED?

2. IF IT PROVES INFEASIBLE TO PERSUADE YOSHIDA AT THIS STAGE TO ACCEPT COEQUAL VPS U.S. ED SHOULD URGE HIM TO DELAY PROPOSING THIS STRUCTURE TO BOARD OR OTHERWISE FREEZING POSITION ON THIS ISSUE. IN THIS WAY WE CAN SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE FURTHER WITH HIM, E.G. AT BANK/FUND MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON SEPT. 26-27.

3. IF EVEN THIS IS INFEASIBLE, IT BECOMES PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT WE GET FIRMER ASSURANCE THAT SECOND VP WILL PARTICIPATE FULLY IN COLLEGIAL DECISION-MAKING APPARATUS; AND INDICATION OF SUBJECT RANGE THIS WOULD COVER (E.G. DEVELOPMENT POLICY?) YOU COULD STRESS ABILITY TO INTEREST CANDIDATES OF THE STATURE AND EFFECTIVENESS REQUIRED TO SERVE ADB WELL WOULD DEPEND ON OUR BEING ABLE TO GIVE ASSURANCES ON THIS POINT.

4. CONCERNING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE POSITION, WE CONCUR IN YOUR PITCH TO HAVE THE ECONOMIC POLICY STAFF REPORT TO THE U.S. VP AND WOULD LIKE YOU TO PURSUE THIS MATTER, USING YOUR BEST JUDGMENT ON HOW FAR TO PRESS IT. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, ALSO HOPE TO HAVE STAFF ELEVATED MORE SIGNIFICANT ROLE, BUT THIS ISSUE MIGHT BETTER BE POST-PONED.

5. WITH REGARD TO THE NUMBER OF VP'S, WE STRONGLY PREFER NOT TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF VICE PRESIDENTS BEYOND TWO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 206226

ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE U.S. CANDIDATE WILL FILL ONE SLOT. WE COULD ACCEPT THIRD IF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO INSURE U.S. ONE VP POSITION.

6. FINALLY, WASHINGTON IS ADVANCING TIMETABLE FOR SELECTION OF SUITABLE CANDIDATES AND HOPES TO HAVE NAME/ NAMES FOR YOSHIDA WITHIN TWO MONTHS.
VANCE

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